



Notice of Assessment Task

HSC CAFS Course - Independent Research Project

Date of initial notification:

Term 4 Week 5 – Thursday 9th November, 2023

Date of submission:

Term 4 Week 10 – Thursday 14th December, 2023

Task Number: 1

Time Allowed: 6 weeks

Weighting of task: 20%

Course component/Focus area/Topic/Module:

Core 1 - Research Methodologies

Context for the Task: Independent Research Project

Students have been studying the Core Module 'Research Methodology' in which they have explored the fundamentals of research, research methods and the research process. Students will be given the opportunity to explore these concepts further through the research that will take place in a class Independent Research Project.

As a class a topic will be chosen that relates to the Community and Family Studies syllabus. The focus of the Independent Research Project should be related to the course content of one or more of the following areas:

- Individuals
- Groups
- Families
- Communities
- Resource Management

Task Description

According to the Community and Family Studies Syllabus (BOS, 2013) the IRP consists of three parts:

- (a) The project plan
- (b) The project diary
- (c) The product

Students will undertake research as a class in research teams, with their teacher facilitating the process. Students will then be assessed individually on parts of the product including Methodologies, Analysis and Discussion, and Conclusion and Recommendations and Diary.

Methodologies

Students will be assessed on their ability to justify the appropriate research methodologies that were used in their research; along with sampling including methods, size and group; with a link to ethical behaviour, reliability and validity.

Analysis and Discussion

Students will be assessed on their ability to present and compare key findings from primary and secondary data with the results the class obtained during the research process. Students are to draw on both qualitative and quantitative aspects of primary and secondary data to determine trends from the data, make comparisons/relationships/patterns and identify possible reasons for the patterns and relationships found.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Students will also be assessed on their ability to form research-based conclusions from the analysis and discussion, and how these compare to their class question/hypothesis. They will also be required to discuss the implications of the research findings and make recommendations from their findings.

Diary

Students will be assessed on their ability to communicate ideas and record their opinions, values, attitudes and feelings regarding the research process. They will be required to record conversations, contacts, readings and sources of data they engage with and reflect on the problems they encounter and demonstrate critical and creative thinking. The diary entries should reflect the proposed timeline.

Outcomes to be assessed in this task:

H4.1 Justifies and applies appropriate research methodologies

H4.2 Communicates ideas, debates issues and justifies opinions

Feedback: How will I receive feedback on this task?

- Written
- Verbal
- Whole class
- Individual

Description: Independent Task Research Project

Success Criteria

In order to succeed in this task, you will need to:

- Conduct a research project within the following guidelines:
 - The topic will be created by the class and approved by the teacher.
 - The task must be presented as a hard copy and/or on google classroom, using Times New Roman, size 12 font.

Submission Instructions

Individual Sections (detailed outlined below)

Methodologies, analysis and discussion, conclusion and recommendations, diary.

Must be submitted hardcopy to the teacher and individually submitted on Google Classroom, by the due date.

Whole class sections (outlined below)

Will be accessible for all students on google classroom/google docs/google drive.

Task Preparation

Class Project Plan

In a class Google Doc, students will brainstorm and discuss a suitable question/hypothesis, which will form the basis of a class IRP. This question will be based around specific HSC CAFS Content which students will be able to relate to during the HSC course. Suitable research methods and sampling will be chosen as a class to support the research, which will be undertaken throughout the research process. As a class, you will develop a list of sources to help guide your research and discuss any ethical concerns that may be faced, as well as strategies to overcome these. Additionally, as a class, students will develop an appropriate timeline for the research project.

Project Diary - ***completed individually***

In a class Google Doc, students will be required to actively record the ongoing research process; opinions, values, attitudes and feelings; problems and their solutions in class and any other work done outside of class time. Students must also record conversations, contacts, readings and sources of data they engage with. Students must make a **minimum of three (3)** quality contributions to their diary.

Class Research

Students will negotiate various roles within the class, in which they will share both primary and secondary data with their classmates via Google Drive, Docs, Forms and Sheets to document their data. Students will be required to work in small groups to conduct primary and secondary research to be shared with the class for collation of results.

The product - Class Report

Students will use Google Docs to create an IRP Report, which will be shared with all members of the class (***not including individually completed sections***).

They will include the following:

Product Section	Instructions
<p>Title Page</p>	<p>Completed as a class - Include Research question, student names, image.</p>
<p>Introduction/abstract (Approx ½ page)</p>	<p>Completed as a class - Focusing on introducing the IRP question/hypothesis, description of research, link to Community and Family Studies content and methodologies used. (This is a summary of the major aspects of the research project)</p>
<p>Contents page</p>	<p>Completed as a class - Clearly identifies sections of the report and their corresponding page.</p>
<p>Acknowledgements</p>	<p>Completed as a class - Acknowledging any key individuals that contributed to their research</p>
<p>Literature Review (Approx 2 pages)</p>	<p>Completed as a class - Students are to find and summarise relevant articles to share with the class. Individually students will write the literature review.</p>
<p>Methodologies (Approx 1.5 pages)</p>	<p>Completed as a class - Discuss the methodologies that will be most appropriate for your research topic. <u>Completed individually -</u> Justify the methods and samples and link these to reliability and validity.</p>
<p>Results (Approx 3 pages)</p>	<p>Completed as a class - In research teams, students will collect results from the selected research methods. Results are presented in graph/table form.</p>
<p>Analysis and Discussion (Approx 2 pages)</p>	<p><u>Completed individually -</u> Present and interpret results. Suggests reasons why the results may have occurred. Compare key findings from primary and secondary data. Relates findings to literature review. Relates findings to hypothesis/question.</p>
<p>Conclusion and recommendations (Approx 2 pages)</p>	<p><u>Completed individually -</u> Summarise the main findings from the research. What advice/recommendations would you give for future research? Positive and negative experiences.</p>
<p>Bibliography</p>	<p>Completed as a class - Acknowledges all sources used (using Harvard Referencing/appropriate referencing method as directed by the teacher).</p>
<p>Appendix</p>	<p>Completed as a class - The following should be included with headings and page numbers: -Literature Review articles -Blank questionnaire -Google doc (completed results from questionnaire) -List of Interview questions and interview transcripts</p>

Malpractice Statement

Malpractice is any form of plagiarism, cheating or dishonesty. Plagiarism is the same as cheating. It means taking another person's ideas or words and passing them off as your own.

When you use a direct quotation from another piece of work, you must enclose it with quotation marks and provide bibliographical details. You must also provide bibliographical details if you simply paraphrase, that is, express another person's ideas in your own words.

You will be given a zero if you plagiarise another person's work or are involved with any malpractice incidents. The zero mark will be awarded no matter how much plagiarism has occurred. Plagiarism and other forms of malpractice are obvious to an experienced marker and it is not up to the marker to provide proof.

- *If you are absent on the day that the task is due, you MUST see your teacher the next day (not your next lesson) that you are present at school to show your medical certificate or produce a misadventure form (refer to your Assessment Booklet for a copy of the form).*
- *Exemptions and extensions for any other reason will only be determined at the discretion of the Head Teacher, and only in extenuating circumstances. You must advise the Head Teacher as soon as possible if you know you are unable to submit the task on the due date.*
- *All appeals must be lodged within 48hrs of receipt of the task. Students who may consider an appeal are not permitted to take their task home. The original task cannot be altered in any way prior to the appeal process. See Assessment booklet for details.*

Marking Criteria

Methodologies

Outcomes Assessed: H4.1 Justifies and applies appropriate research methodologies H4.2 Communicates ideas, debates issues and justifies opinions	
Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrates extensive knowledge and understanding about research methodologies ● Provides clear justification about appropriate research methodologies that were used ● Makes clear link between the research methodologies, sample size and sample group and the reliability and validity of the research. ● Presents a logical and cohesive answer. 	9 - 10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrates thorough knowledge and understanding about research methodologies ● Provides justification about appropriate research methodologies that were used ● Makes a link between the research methodologies, sample size and sample group and the reliability and validity of the research. ● Presents a cohesive answer. 	6 - 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrates sound knowledge and understanding about research methodologies ● Provides information about appropriate research methodologies that were used ● Makes a link between the research methodologies, sample size and/or sample group and the reliability and/or validity of the research. 	3 - 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provides a point(s) about research methodologies and/or makes a point(s) about research methodologies, sample size and/or sample group and the reliability and/or validity of the research. 	1 - 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Non submission 	0

Analysis and discussion

Outcomes Assessed: H4.1 Justifies and applies appropriate research methodologies H4.2 Communicates ideas, debates issues and justifies opinions	
Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrates extensive knowledge and understanding about primary and secondary data ● Provides clear similarities and/or differences between the primary and secondary data ● Provides clear links between the trends from the data and possible reasons for the patterns ● Communicates ideas and information using relevant examples ● Presents a logical and cohesive answer 	13-15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrates thorough knowledge and understanding about primary and secondary data ● Provides similarities and/or differences between the primary and secondary data ● Provides links between the trends from the data and possible reasons for the patterns ● Communicates ideas and information using examples ● Presents a cohesive answer 	10-12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrates sound knowledge about primary and secondary data ● Provides some links between the primary and secondary data and/or trends and patterns ● Communicates ideas and information using some examples 	7-9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrates some information about primary and secondary data and/or trends and patterns ● Provides example(s) 	4-6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provides a point(s) about primary and/or secondary research and/or quantitative research and/or qualitative research and/or trends and/or comparisons and/or patterns and/or relationships 	1-3

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non submission 	0
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Conclusion and recommendations

Outcomes Assessed: H4.1 Justifies and applies appropriate research methodologies H4.2 Communicates ideas, debates issues and justifies opinions	
Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates extensive knowledge and understanding about research topic • Provides clear research-based conclusions from the analysis and discussion and how these link to the question/hypothesis • Provides comprehensive suggestions for further research and/or recommendations • Communicates ideas and information using relevant examples • Presents a logical and cohesive answer 	9 - 10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates thorough knowledge and understanding about research topic • Provides research-based conclusions from the analysis and discussion and how these link to the question/hypothesis • Provides thorough suggestions for further research and/or recommendations • Communicates ideas and information using examples • Presents a cohesive answer 	6 - 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates sound knowledge about research topic • Provides some links between conclusions • Provides sound suggestions for further research and/or recommendations • Communicates ideas and information using some examples 	3 - 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a point(s) about research topic and/or suggestions for further research/recommendations and/or conclusions and/or a link to the question/hypothesis. • May or may not include an example(s) 	1 - 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-submission 	0

Diary - Minimum of 3 entries

Outcomes Assessed: H4.1 Justifies and applies appropriate research methodologies H4.2 Communicates ideas, debates issues and justifies opinions	
Criteria	Mark
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provides an extensive record of thoughts and ideas as they take shape. ● Clearly identifies and explains the process for determining the nature of the product. ● Shows an extensive understanding of the problems encountered and shows evidence of the steps taken to resolve the problem. ● Displays extensive evidence of contacts and conversations in a logical and concise way ● Completes all minimum of 3 diary entries. 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provides a thorough record of thoughts and ideas as they take shape. ● Clearly identifies and describes the process for determining the nature of the product ● Shows a thorough understanding of the problems encountered and shows evidence of the steps taken to resolve the problem. ● Displays evidence of contacts and conversations in a logical and concise way ● Completes minimum of 3 diary entries 	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Displays sound documented evidence of project development ● Some entries are made ● May identify some problems ● Records some contacts and/or conversations 	2-3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shows some evidence of project development ● Few entries are made, not following the timeline or the proforma ● No evidence of problem solving to resolve any issues arising ● Basic or no record of conversation and relevant contacts. 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Non-submission 	0

Feedback:

What did you do well?

What could you have done better?

